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Wimborne Minster Urban District

Annual Reports

of

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Years 1942 and 1943

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Acting M.O.H.

TILSED & SON, WIMBORNE

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WIMBORNE MINSTER URBAN DISTRICT

Annual Report of Medical Officer of Health.

Years 1942 and 1943

(*abbreviated*)

1. Public Health Staff

Medical Officer (*part time*). Dr. C. B. Thomson (vice Dr. E. H. Markby, on Active Service). On the unfortunate death by accident of Dr. Thomson in July 1943, Dr. R. J. Maule Horne became Acting Medical Officer.

Sanitary Inspector, combined with Office of Surveyor—C. W. Prance.

2. Statistics.

	1942	1943
Area (in acres)	653	653
Registrar General's estimate of Population as at 30th June ..	4062	4030
Number of Inhabited houses (from Rate Book)	1322	1327
Rateable Value	£31,279	£31,280
Sum represented by one penny rate..	£122	£122

Social Conditions. The presence of official evacuees and a fluctuating number of temporary Service residents have influenced to some extent the industries and the extent of unemployment.

At the commencement of 1942 there were 228 adult and child evacuees in the Town. By December the number had fallen to 124, and at December 1943 there was a further reduction to 63.

Vital Statistics	1942		1943	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Live Births (legitimate) ..	26	35	18	27
Live Births (illegitimate) ..	3	4	3	2
Still Births	—	—	—	—
Birthrate per 1000 population	16.7		12.4	
Still birth rate per 1000 births	—		—	
Deaths	29	27	28	32
Crude Death Rate	13.79		14.89	
Corrected Death Rate.. ..	10.62		11.47	
Deaths from Puerperal causes	—		—	
Infants uuder 1 year of age ..	2	2	2	0
Death rate per 1000 live births	58.8		40.0	
Legitimate Infant Death rate	49.2		22.2	
Illegitimate Infant Death rate	143.0		200.0	
Deaths from Cancer	4	4	3	2
Measles	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—
Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ..	—		—	

3. General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

(*a*) *Laboratory facilities.* The Dorset County Laboratories, at Glyde Path, Dorchester, with branch Laboratory at the Municipal Buildings, Poole, afford a comprehensive and up-to-date service.

(*b*) *Ambulance facilities.* For general purposes and accidents the Council maintain a 23 h.p. Bedford Ambulance, with capacity of 2 lying and 4 sitting cases, or 3 lying cases.

For Infectious Diseases, ambulance conveyance is provided by the Borough of Poole, the contracting authority for the hospitalisation of infectious illness, where called for.

Disinfection of premises, bedding etc., is also carried out by contract with the Borough of Poole.

(*e*) *Clinics and Treatment Centres* (under the authority of the Dorset County Council) :—

Child Welfare Clinic. Held on alternate Tuesday afternoons at the Womens' Institute, Leigh Road.

School Clinic, including Scabies. By arrangement with the Civil Defence Authority, the services of a trained nurse are available each School morning at the First Aid Post, Allendale.

Orthopaedic Clinic, held monthly on Wednesdays, at the Womens' Institute, Leigh Road.

Ear, nose and throat. School children found to require operative treatment for unhealthy tonsils or adenoids, receive this at the Cornelia and East Dorset Hospital, Poole.

Defective Eyesight amongst School children is examined periodically, and, if necessary, spectacles are provided.

School Dental Service. Schools are visited periodically by the travelling Dental Clinic of the County Education Authority.

Tuberculosis. The County Tuberculosis Clinic is open on Mondays and Thursdays at King Street, Poole, with a centre for radiography, artificial pneumothorax, and other aspects of control and Treatment at the County Home, Nirvana, Commercial Road, Parkstone.

Venereal Diseases. Dorset County Clinic is held at Cornelia Hospital, Poole on Tuesdays and Fridays, and at Boscombe Hospital, Shelley Road, Boscombe on Wednesdays and Saturdays, with separate hours for men and women.

Hospitals: General and Maternity. Wimborne has its own "Cottage" Hospital with accommodation for 34 patients.

Cornelia Hospital, Poole and the Royal Victoria and West Hants Hospital, Boscombe, both afford full general and maternity facilities, and Allen House, a County Welfare Institutlon, has 49 beds, as well as 4 maternity beds and Labour Ward.

Infectious Diseases. The district has a contract with the Borough of Poole for the treatment of suitable cases at the Borough Isolation Hospital, Alderney, Newtown, Poole.

Smallpox incidence is provided for by the County Council at the Isolation Hospital of the Wareham and Purbeck Rural District.

4. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

There were no extensions of public water supplies, and no sewerage undertakings during the period under review. One new water-flushing closet was installed in 1943, making the total of these, 336. while the number of pail closets in use was 1,090.

There are 5 Registered Dairy premises: no slaughter-houses or pig styes.

Of houses inspected for defects, five were rendered fit by Formal Notice in 1942, and 7 in 1943.

Inspections under the Food and Drugs Acts were 50 in 1942 and 81 in 1943.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)

	1942	1943
Measles	4	10
Whooping Cough	13	2
Pneumonia (all forms)	6	11
Erysipelas	1	2
Scarlet Fever	—	1
Diphtheria	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1
Total ..	26	27

Protection against Diphtheria.

By the end of 1941, 412 children were stated to have received protection, 36 children under 5 years and 43 between 5 and 15 years having been dealt with during that year.

The following table summarises the position at December, 1943.

Year	1—4 *years*	5—15 *years*	*Notifications*	*Deaths*
up to 1940	33	3	7	—
1941	36	43	3	—
1942	143	244	1	—
1943	79	71	—	—

It may be assumed that, with an estimated population, under 5 years, of 350, and between 5 and 15 years, of 800, the respective percentages protected at the end of 1943 were 73 and 79 respectively.

The number of notifications over the above period cannot be taken as being materially affected by the progress of protection, as 'waves' of Diphtheria have previously been found to occur in approximately nine year periods.

Tuberculosis : New cases and Mortality.

Age	New Cases								Deaths							
	Respiratory				Non-Respiratory				Respiratory				Non-Respiratory			
	M		F		M		F		M		F		M		F	
	'42	'43	'42	'43	'42	'43	'42	'43	'42	'43	'42	'43	'42	'43	'42	'43
Under 1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 and under 5 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 and under 15 ..	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 and under 25 ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 and under 35 ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 and under 45 ..	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
45 and under 55 ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55 and under 65 ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ..	2	2	3	3	—	—	—	1	2	2	—	1	—	—	—	—

8. Local and Adopted Acts. No change.

Causes of Death.

Code No.	Cause	1942		1943	
		M	F	M	F
6	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ..	1	—	2	2
8	Syphilitic Diseases	—	1	—	—
9	Influenza	—	—	2	2
13	Cancer of buccal cavities and oesophagus ..	—	—	2	—
	Cancer of uterus	—	—	—	1
15	Cancer of breast	—	1	—	1
16	Cancer, all other Sites	4	3	1	—
18	Intracranial vascular lesions	2	—	4	3
19	Heart Disease	7	6	—	7
20	Other diseases of Circulatory System ..	3	2	1	1
21	Bronchitis	2	2	3	1
22	Pneumonia	1	1	1	—
23	Other Respiratory diseases	—	—	1	3
24	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	1	—	1	—
27	Other digestive disorders	1	—	—	—
28	Nephritis	1	1	1	—
31	Premature Birth	—	1	—	—
32	Other congenital conditions	—	1	1	—
33	Suicide	1	—	—	—
34	Road Traffic accidents	1	—	2	—
35	Other violent causes	2	2	1	—
36	All other causes	2	6	5	11
	Totals ..	29	27	28	32
		56		60	